(d) the margin money and other assistance provided to above village industries in the first ten months;

(e) whether there are any conditions to be fulfilled by an entrepreneur to set up a village industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The target of assisting the establishment of village industry units under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) during 2006-07 was 31,760. Of these units, 2940 units were proposed for setting up in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d) 1083 village industry units were set up in Andhra Pradesh during the first ten months of 2006-07 (upto January, 2007) and margin money assistance amounting to Rs. 1907.93 lakh was provided to them.

(e) and (f) Under the REGP, an eligible entrepreneur can establish a village industry in rural areas and small towns with population upto 20,000 for economically viable activities, other than those in a small negative list, by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loan from any public sector scheduled commercial bank.

The eligibility conditions include (i) the beneficiary should be of 18 years of age or above, (ii) only one person from one family is eligible (iii) fixed capital investment should not exceed Rs. 1 lakh per worker employed in general category areas (Rs. 1.5 lakh in hilly areas), (iv) the project cost should not exceed Rs. 25 lakh (cost of land should not be included in the project) (v) the beneficiary will contribute 10 per cent of the project cost as own contribution (5 per cent for certain weaker-sections, *viz.*, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Women, Ex-servicemen, etc.), etc.

Claim settlement

2099. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that victims are getting very less payment/claim settlement than the claim amount at Railway Claims Tribunal;

(b) the details about RCT Chairman's representation, suggestion and Railway's view point on the same;

(c) when this amount such as Rs. 4,00,000 for death, Rs. 1 to 3 lacs for major injury/disabled, etc., have been fixed; why the same has not been revised; and

(d) whether the Railway is considering revised rates, claim amount etc.; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. The amount of compensation is decreed by the Railway Claims Tribunal in accordance with the Railway accidents and Untoward Incidents (Compensation) Amendment Rules, 1997. Under these rules, the compensation in case of death is Rs.4 lakh and in case of injuries the minimum compensation is Rs.32,000/- and the maximum is Rs.4,00,000/-.

(b) to (d) The Chairman of Railway Claims Tribunal has *inter-alia* represented that the maximum compensation which was fixed long back for the victims of Railway, accidents and untoward incidents needs to be enhanced having regard to the rupee value now and then.

With effect from 1st November, 1997, the amount of compensation in case of death was increased from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 4 lakhs. Similarly in case of injury, the minimum amount of compensation was increased from Rs. 16 thousand to Rs. 32 thousand and the maximum amount was increased from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 4 lakhs.

Train from Lucknow to Goa

†2100. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that there is no train from Lucknow to Goa for the public of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government would arrange to operate any train from-Lucknow to Goa;

(c) if so, by when;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government would consider to extend the train running from Lucknow to Pune upto Goa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. There is no direct train between Lucknow and Goa.

(b) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to operational and resource constraints.

(e) No, Sir.

Encroachment of railway land

2101. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of railway land that has been encroached in Delhi and since when; and

(b) what steps have been taken to clear the encroachments and the reasons for failing to get the encroachments cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Approximately 40 hectares of Railway land in Delhi has been encroached over various years.

(b) Various steps have been taken for removal of encroachments, which also include action under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.